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The Musket

LEXINGTON HIGH SCHOOL'S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1969

Senior Destinations
After four years at LHS, members of the Class of 2018 are starting new journeys. See where they are headed!
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Inequality Editorial
Unequal distribution of resources makes college admissions a game rather than a fair process.
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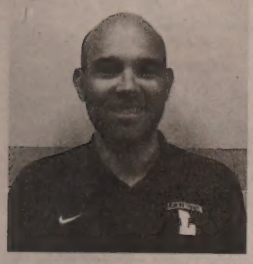
Volume LVII Issue VI— May 2018

Associate principal John Murray leaves LHS after four years



Staff photo by Eunice Kim
John Murray leaves LHS.

Avery Gehring
Opinion Editor
Sanjana Puri
Managing Editor

On April 22, John Murray, the associate principal at Lexington High School, announced his decision to take up the principal position at Medway High School come September.

"Dr. Murray has contributed greatly to the school and school culture and has had a huge impact on a lot of different levels," Andrew Stephens, principal of LHS said. "He is ready to be a principal and completely deserves it."

Stephens describes his relationship with Murray as dynamic, saying that they connect on a professional and personal level. Recalling the pep rally November, Stephens said, "I will particularly remember going head-to-head with him in the three-point contest and later losing to him in the final dance-off. That was certainly a hard pill to swallow."

This is Murray's fourth year at LHS.

"I think what I will remember most about John Murray was that he tried so hard to help shift the culture at LHS," Martha Queenin, a school social worker at LHS said. "He has been a huge supporter of all students and their voices."

Murray was the driving force behind establishing the Rock Room.

"[He] not only got us the space, he salvaged the furniture so when we returned in the fall we had chairs and tables," Queenin said.

Murray has forged close relationships with students.

"The kids are why I got into education in the first place," Murray said. "I love walking around and saying 'Hi' to them in the hallways."

Murray has become especially close to the Class of 2018, who were freshman when he started, and will be graduating this year.

"I love the Class of 2018. It is all about LHS spirit. They have rallied for four years on how to bring the school together. They understand who we are and what we stand for and they all have each other's backs," Murray said.

Murray plans on using his time at LHS to inform his future position.

"The first thing you have to do is listen," Murray said. "I don't go in with a complete plan, but having been an administrator here, I certainly have a bag of tricks."

As Murray closes his final months at LHS, he hopes that he can leave the students with one message.

"I hope that when students graduate LHS, they don't measure success based on what college or university they are attending or how much money they end up making. I hope that we have given folks the tools to be good people and measure success based on the number of positive relationships they make," Murray said.

Gap year becoming popular option

Talia Blatt
News Edior
Isha Jha
Online Content Editor

From spending a year in a zen monastery to spending another playing competitive hockey, several Lexington High School seniors are taking different paths than their peers after graduation. Rather than entering directly into the traditional four year college experience, a few students have chosen to take a gap year.

Recently popularized by Malia Obama, a gap year is a period, typically between high school and college, spent outside of the classroom traveling, working or pursuing other life-enriching experiences.

For some students, a gap year provides a much needed respite from academics.

"I knew I wanted to take a gap year ever since I sent my applications…I know people talk a lot about senior slump, or senioritis, or whatever you want to call it, but I've been hit hard by it and I'm worried that it will carry over to my college years if I don't take steps to counteract it," Brian Coburn, a senior at LHS, said.

For others, gap years provide a chance for self-reflection. "Instead of going straight to college next year like most other seniors, I'll be moving into a Zen Buddhist community in Boston. From there I'll be volunteering, working, applying to colleges and meditating—a practice I've found endlessly useful for investigating my deepest questions about my thoughts, identity and purpose," Eli Intriligator, a senior at LHS, said.

For underclassmen, gap years may be unexplored opportunities.

"[Gap years] never came to mind. And I've never had any issues going to college," Joe Denham, a junior at LHS, said.

With graduation quickly approaching, many seniors are making the first of many big life decisions. Whether they choose to go to college, take a gap year or something else, it is clear that seniors have been taking lots of time reflecting on their past to help them make their decisions in the future.

"I think it could really help me take some time to think about who I want to be and what I want to do with my life. I think it can help you to become a more mature human being, and I think it's just a really good opportunity to take some time for self-reflection and exploration regardless of what you do and where you decide to go," Coburn said.

There will be an I Block held on May 22 in the Library Media Center for juniors interested in taking a gap year.

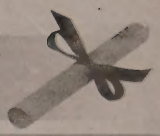
Class of 2018 Top 10 Destinations

1.	UMass Amherst	62
2.	New York University	13
3.	Northeastern University	12
	Tufts University	12
5.	Boston University	11
	Brandeis University	11
	University of Vermont	11
8.	Cornell University	10
	Gap Year	10
10.	Boston College	9

Plans at a Glance

College	97.4% (496)
Gap Year	2.0% (10)
Military	0.6% (3)
Work	0.4% (2)

CLASS OF 2018 SENIOR DESTINATIONS



Kimia Abedi	UMass Amherst
Murat Ablimit	University of Maryland
Micah Abraham	Vocational Program
Dennahe Adley	Endicott College
Nana Adu	UMass Boston
Aditi Agarwal	Cornell University
Amy Agne	University of Miami
Lucas Aguirre	UMass Amherst
Maya Alaoeasheg	MCPHS University
Lindsay Albert	Boston University
Stephen Alessandro	Boston College
Snigdha Allaparthi	UC Berkeley
Luis Alvarnez	UMass Amherst
Douglas Amirault	Bates College
Jack Amsler	Boston College
Mira Anderberg	Whitman College
Madelyn Andersen	Harvey Mudd College
Rasheed Anderson	Salem State University
Diya Antony	American University
Ethan Aronson	Bryant University
Omer Atiyyat	UMass Boston
Isabella Azaroff	UMass Lowell
Maggie Bacon	UMass Amherst
Minki Baek	UMass Amherst
Alexis Bain	UC Santa Barbara
Zubin Baliga	
Alec Ballinger	University of Maine
Alex Banks	UMass Amherst
Alie Barrett	Ithaca College
Maya Barrett-Tzannes	Vassar College
Stasia Bartsch	Cornell University
Tina Bastin	Boston University
Michelle Beaudette	Northeastern University
Audrey Berlin	Northeastern University
Emily Berman	
Jeremy Bernier	University of Connecticut
Julien Bertic	Ithaca University
Vivek Bhupatiraju	MIT
Evan Bitsko	Pennsylvannia State University
Ryan Blanchard	Military
Hadar Boker	Cornell University
Philip Bonmassar	Brandeis University
Navi Boyalakuntla	Olin College
Nina Boyer	University of Colorado Boulder
Tomo Brais	Rhode Island School of Design
Cassidy Brand	University of Colorado Boulder
Rosie Brandon	UMass Amherst
Ella Breunig	LIM College
Eric Brock	University of Vermont
Sade Brooks	UMass Amherst
Douglas Brown	Quinnipiac University
Phoebe Bruce	Brandeis University
Alan Bulavsky	UMass Lowell
Lara Bursal	Northeastern University
Meghan Buschini	Roger Williams University
Olivia Byrd	Johnson C. Smith University
Sophia Caira	College of the Holy Cross
Alex Caliri	Bentley University
Hilary Cameron	University of Rhode Island
Ben Campbell	Gap Year
Chelsea Cannon	UMass Amherst
Abby Canton	Concordia University
Harrison Cao	University of Connecticut
Cecilia Carabillo	UMass Lowell
Nick Caracino	UMass Lowell
Julia Casey	University of Guelph
Matthew Catalano	Pace University
Katie Chamberlain	Saint Michael's College
Lucas Chang	Indiana University
Pat Chanthanaluck	UMass Boston
Ben Chaput	UMass Amherst
Reign Charbit	Gap Year
Cedrick Charles	
Eugenia Cheang	UMass Lowell
Ashley Chen	MIT
Cynthia Chen	Case Western Reserve University
Catherine Cheng	Wesleyan University
Abigail Cheng	Syracuse University
Tyler Chheng	UMass Boston
Julia Chiang	Williams College
Simon Chiang	
Jason Chin	Drexel University
Jonathan Chin-Sam	
Kristin Chiu	UMass Amherst
Benjamin Choi	Stanford University
Jeonghoon Choi	Boston University
Justin Choi	Gordon College
Karis Choi	MCPHS University
Sophie Chong	Northeastern University
Sam Christiansen	Gap Year
April Chung	McGill University
Cameron Closs	Framingham State University
Anthony Clough	UMass Amherst
Brian Coburn	Gap Year/Kenyon College
Gil Cohen	University of Vermont
Matt Cole	Winona State University
Samuel Cole	University of Montana Missoula
Megan Conners	Keene State College
Nick Connolly	Colorado College
Liam Copeland-Clarke	UMass Lowell
Irina Costache	UMass Amherst
Oliver Cotran	Vassar College
Salome Coyer	UMass Boston
Lily Crandall-Oral	UMass Amherst
Demiah Crawford	Emerson College
Daniel Crooke	Syracuse University
Kathryn Crooke	Quinnipiac University
Allen Cui	UC Los Angeles
Ben Current	MassBay Community College
Michael D'Agostino	Bentley University
Sanjna Das	Cornell University
Ryan Davy	Denison University
Venuri De Silva	Northeastern University
Jack Defay	Cornell University
Priyana Dey	University of Vermont
Ido Diamant	UMass Amherst
Jacob Diamond	UMass Amherst
Ava Dickson	Queen's University
Connor Dion	University of Rhode Island
Kerri Disalvatore	Marist College
Madalin Dixon	Suffolk University
Hyunwoo Do	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Christopher Doetsch	St. Lawrence University
Bliss Doney	Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Emma Donigan	Colby College
Rishi Dorbala	Cornell University
Sasha Driscoll	University of Connecticut
DJ Dubose	Southern New Hampshire University
D Duncan	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Eric Eaglesham	Northeastern University
Cooper Eastridge	Ithaca College
Maddy Eichenberg	University of Michigan
Carter Eidson	Boston University
Yasmine El-Kattan	UMass Amherst
Andrew Erler	Davidson College
Kelly Everin	Villanova University
Jason Fan	Georgia Institue of Technology
Evan Fang	Carnegie Mellon University
Brandon Farino	Northeastern University
Kavi Farr	American University
Miles Feeley	Salem State University
Josh Feldman	Washington University in St. Louis
Annie Fiore	University of Vermont
Josiah Fleming	
Jennifer Foley	Lesley University
Vichka Fonarev	Tufts University
Isabel Fox	Merrimack College
Maya Fray-Witzer	Middlebury College
Sal Frelick	Boston College
Valentina Fryou	Saint Anselm College
Claudia Gaebler	UMass Amherst
Susannah Gaines	University of Maine
Cole Gannon	Ursinus College
Matan Gans	Brown University
Ann Gao	Cornell University
Bill Gao	University of Pennsylvania
William Gao	Boston University
Shira Garbis	McGill University
Kira Gardner	UMass Amherst
Avery Gehring	Wake Forest University
Joc Geller	Skidmore College
Adi Geva	UMass Amherst
Vivienne Geyerhahn	University of South Carolina
Ryan Ghayour	Tufts University
Armand Ghayspoor	Northeastern University
Seth Gillett	Skidmore College
Brendan Gillis	Purdue University
Kaija Gisolfi-McCready	University of Pennsylvania
Gabby Goddard	University of Kentucky
Louis Golowich	Harvard University
Eliora Goodman	George Washington University
Emma Goodreau	University of Vermont
Ian Goodreau	Endicott College
Jeffrey Gordon	Princeton University
Maddie Graham	UMass Boston
Owen Graham-O'Regan	Trinity College Dublin
Leon A. Grinis	Brandeis University
Andrew Gritsevskiy	UC Los Angeles
Justin Grout	Bishop's University
Sumner Gubisch	UMass Amherst
Manu Gunnala	Vanderbilt University
Taeko Gupta	UMass Amherst
Genevieve Guzman	Gap Year
Emma Hagan	UMass Amherst
Zach Hahn-Du Pont	Boston College
Majeed Hallaj	Tufts University
Lilian Harrington	University of Maryland
Nathan Harrington	Rochester Institute of Technology
Niki Harris	University of Denver
Payton Harris	University of Southern Maine
Jeffrey He	
Jason Healy	Hamilton College
Jay Healy	Ithaca College
Matt Her	MCPHS University
Isabel Herbert	Salem State University
Jack Heretz	Elon University
Brandon Hernandez	Saint Michael's College
Bree Hill	University of Vermont
Henry Hoffman	McGill University
Cam Hofland	UMass Lowell
Matty Hogan	Boston College
Lucas Honohan	UMass Amherst
Vinny Houh	Skidmore College
Nate Houston	Dartmouth College
Daniel Huang	UMass Amherst
Ian Huang	Brandeis University
Chloe Hudson Prock	Northeastern University
Niamn Hunt	Saint Anselm College
Nadia Ilaj	Syracuse University
James Ingwersen	Drexel University
Eli Intriligator	Gap Year
Sahar Iranmanesh	University of Connecticut
Conor Ireland	Boston College
Katya Irving	University of Miami
Erinn Ives	UMass Amherst
Elizabeth Jacobs	UMass Amherst
Noah Jacobson	Williams College
Megan Jakob	UMass Amherst
Trevor James	Northwestern University
Nick Jameyson	Bowling Green State University
Taylor Jeffries	
Devin Jeness	
Sunwoo Jeong	University of Connecticut
Isha Jha	Brandeis University
Allen Jin	Brandeis University
Parris Johnson	
Tess Johnson	UMass Amherst
Bryanna Jones	
Merlin Joyce	Emmanuel College
Chris Jun	Dartmouth College
Arushi Kalia	UIUC
Tamara Kamis	Cornell University
Julia Kan	Wesleyan University
Jake Kanef	Emory University
Xiaoyu Kang	Carnegie Mellon University
Daniel Kassey	UMass Lowell
Derik Kauffman	Washington University in St. Louis
Hana Kawamura	California College of the Arts
Dina Keith	University of Alabama
Drew Kelly	Lafayette College
Evan Kendall	University of Richmond
Nathaniel KeYes	University of Florida
Samuel KeYes	Emory University
Amina Khan	UMass Amherst
Max Khozozian	University of Pennsylvania
Rachel Kienle	
Nate Kilroy	Plymouth State University
Hayeun Kim	
Karen Kim	Boston University
Nikki Kim	University of Michigan
Phoebe Kim	UMass Amherst
William Kim	
Yunkyo Moon Kim	
Ted Kirby	Bentley University
Martha Klein	UMass Dartmouth
Ethan Kleppner	Skidmore College
Tom Knara	Gap Year
Jacob Knauer	Brandeis University
Guillaume Knobloch	Concordia University
Daniel Ko	Cornell University
Emily Su Bin Ko	UMass Amherst
Jamie Ko	Tufts University
JiHoon Ko	Columbia University
Nolan Kobs	UC San Diego
Aditya Kodangattil	University of Delaware
Vishnu Kodangattil	UMass Amherst
Anna Kohlasch	Barnard College

The Musket is proud to present Senior Destinations, our annual compilation of the various plans for the graduating Class of 2018. This information has been compiled to the best of The

Sam Konijnenberg	Erasmus University College
Olivia Kormos	New York University
Sofia Koso	College of the Atlantic
Arsh Krishnan	UMass Dartmouth
Manav Kulshrestha	UMass Amherst
Matthew Kutrolli	UMass Amherst
Alex Lagarde	Elon University
Russell Laman	Boston University
James Lane	Kenyon College
Julia Lannom	Wheaton College
Fiona Lau	Emory University
Aisling Lavelle	Gettysburg College
Jermaine Laws	Winston-Salem State University
Renaud LeDonne	Norwich University
Catherine Lee	New York University
John Lee	
Kevin Lee	UMass Amherst
Stephanie Lee	UIUC
Ben Leshchinsky	UIUC
Ryan Leung	Harvard University
Truman Leung	UC Santa Barbara
Kaitlin M. Levangie	Fairfield University
Sam Levi	Gap Year
Vanessa Lewis	University of Exeter
Jenny Lewitzky	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Andrew Li	Harvard University
Justin Li	Georgia Institute of Technology
Raissa Li	Tufts University
Tyler Li	University of Vermont
Vivian Li	Boston College
Jason Lian	UMass Amherst
Brianna Liberman	Syracuse University
Jayden Lim	UMass Boston
Michael Lim	UMass Lowell
Ming Lin	Bentley University
Yuzhe Lin	
Thomas Lingard	Dartmouth College
Andy Linton	Boston University
Jonathan Liu	Northwestern University
Joyce (Zhengyi) Liu	Washington University in St. Louis
Spencer Liu	UMass Amherst
Emily Lo	UMass Amherst
Jen Lo	Babson College
Renee Loati	University of Scranton
Saoirse Loftus Reid	University of Edinburgh
Samuel Losen	University of Vermont
Ange Lu	University of Texas in Austin
Garrett Lu	New York University
Kevin Lu	New York University
Uri Lurie	Gap Year/Babson College
Vittorio Luzio	Columbia University
Alec Mahoney	Rochester Institute of Technology
Nicole Maimonis	UMass Amherst
Bryanna Makumbi	
Olivia Maliszewski	Brown University
Nicholas Manickas-Hill	Harvard University
Asa Manuelian	Curry College
Nick Marten	Quinnipiac University
Hannah Martin	University of Oxford
John Martin	Syracuse University
Julian Masseri	Middlesex Community College
Liam Mattingly	Rochester Institute of Technology
Cassandra Maxim	University of Denver
Claire McCallum	Colorado College
Briny McClain	Mount Holyoke College
Fiona McClave	McGill University
Cory McCullough	
Kayla McDonald	Morgan State University
Lily McGuire-Eggleston	Loyola University Maryland
Alexander McLaughlin	Hamilton College
Richie McNamara	UMass Amherst
Anika Mehra	Colby College
Serena Valor	UC Davis
Alvaro Mendoza	Boston University
Claudia Meng	New York University
Tharina Messeroux	Tufts University
Vedant Misra	New York University
Jack Mitchell	University of Vermont
Sahil Mohanty	Boston University
Noah Monzillo	Saint Anselm College
Sofia Morabito	George Washington University
Odysseas Morgan	Williams College
Christopher Morii-Sciolla	Harvard University
Matthew Moschella	UMass Amherst
Ben Mozes	University of Tampa
Maya Mudgal	Northeastern University
Cam Murray	University of Vermont
Alexia Mursalin	
Riley Myers	University of Toronto
Angel Nagawa	Regis College
Ganga Nair	Clark University
Ricky Namibar	Quinnipiac University
Albany Nasr	Fitchburg State University
Caitlyn Neville	Boston College
Nicholas Newton-Cheh	University of Chicago
David Nguyen	Northeastern University
Aaron Ni	UMass Amherst
Patrick Nie	UMass Amherst
Yuxiang (Kate) Nie	Carnegie Mellon University
Timothy Nkata	Middlesex Community College
Lucie Nolden	Bowdoin College
Daniel O'Donoghue	Coastal Carolina University
Michael O'Donoghue	Coastal Carolina University
Odi Okafor	
Lauren O'Keeffe	Cornell University
Chiara Oldrati	UMass Amherst
Matt Ollendorf	American University
Zachary Olson	
Grace Orcutt	Emmanuel College
Andrew Ordentlich	Colby College
Will Osher	Bates College
Anne Packard	St. Olaf College
Lara Parizek	Pratt Institute
Stephanie Park	Rhode Island School of Design
Yooni Park	Harvard University
Ashli Parr	
Mitchell Parus	Boston University
Nyah Patel	Boston University
Roma Pathak	Brandeis University
Vibhuti Pathare	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Sara Paulino	Gordon College
Jack Pawloski	UMass Amherst
Mei Pearlstein	Boston University
Maia Pedulla	UMass Amherst
Tenzin C. Pharachesur	University of Connecticut
Evelina Phuah	UMass Amherst
Daniel Pinkus	University of Florida
Nick Plansky	Salve Regina University
Jordan Pomales	Curry College
Dimitri Psyhojos	Georgia Institue of Technology
Sanjana Puri	Tufts University
Sue Purohit	New York University
Tamara Puskarevic	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Mahkala Queensborough	
Benjamin Quint	Washington University in St. Louis
Bianca Radulescu-Banu	Smith College
Rajeev Raghavan	UMass Amherst
Karan Ragunath	New York University
Yashas Raj	
Lasya Rajan	Georgetown University
Nitya Rajasekaran	Boston University
Mattias Rask	
Michael Read	UC San Diego
Jess Reamer	
Olivia Reese	Gap Year
Annie Reilly	Villanova University
Constanza Reyes Bricio	UMass Amherst
Meade Reynolds	Boston College
Nikki Reznichenko	University of Michigan
Alissa Rios	University of Alabama
Chanell Rodriguez	UMass Lowell
Or Rotlevy	Israel Defense Forces
Peter Rowley	MIT
Orin Rozenberg	UMass Amherst
Tucker Sabine	Lehigh University
Misa Sadin	University of Vermont
Joanna Samsel	UMass Amherst
Victor Santana	UMass Amherst
Maria Gracia Santillana	New York University
Ben Sarfati	Technion Israel Institute of Technology
Jami Sawyer	Syracuse University
Charlie Schroeder	Roanoke College
Julia Schwartz	George Washington University
Chloe Scopa	Syracuse University
Caroline Scott	Lesley University
Sarah Scott	Pace University
Caroline Sears	Smith College
Gillian Seed	UMass Lowell
Sabiq Shahidullah	UMass Amherst
Cathy Shi	Carnegie Mellon University
Mudit Shukla	
Giulia Silver	UC San Diego
John Siracuse	Boston University
Jacob Siu-Zmuidzinas	San Francisco State University
James Smith	Brandeis University
Leah Smith	Emory University
Jesse Snyder	George Mason University
Alexandria Snyders-Dykeman	University of Toronto
Daniel Song	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rachel Song	Quinnipiac University
Vincent Song	Brown University
Laurel Soulier	Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Ben Spence	Vassar College
Zachary Spence	Norwich University
Seamus Spencer	Queen's University
Andrew Spiers	Wake Forest University
Sahana Sreeprakash	
Dylan Steinkrauss	Merrimack College
Matt Stevens	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Ben Stigberg	Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Clay Stocker	
David Stump	United States Air Force Academy
Suhas Suddala	College of William and Mary
Sophie Sudduth	Savannah College of Art and Design
Jinyung Suh	
Anne Sullivan	Tufts University
Joan Sullivan	Tufts University
Sean Sullivan	Carnegie Mellon University
Anina Sun	Purdue University
Akshay Sundaram	Northeastern University
Anna Sutton	Elon University
Darsan Swaroop Bellie	Northwestern University
Abigail Sweeney	Rhodes College
Matthew Tan	UMass Amherst
Varant Torikian	Middlesex Community College
Henry Tao	UMass Amherst
Carey Tassel	Northeastern University
Mona Tavangar	Tufts University
Jesse Taylor	Southern New Hampshire University
Alex Teng	New York University
Cassidy Teng	UMass Amherst
Caroline Tessy	University of Toronto
Varsha Thatte	
Annalise Thomas	Villanova University
William Thomas	College of the Holy Cross
Andrew Thompson	UMass Lowell
Dan Tkachov	
Alice Troop	UMass Amherst
Iris Tsirkin	Israel Defense Forces
Michael Tu	Brown University
Hanna Tuomi	MIT
Markus Tuomi	University of Oxford
Dylan Turner	University of Edinburgh
Sandeep Vadlamudi	New York University
Eleanor Van Evera	Wesleyan University
Joel Vasquez	Middlesex Community College
Maddie Vincent	George Washington University
Markus Von Huene	Hobart and William Smith College
Isabella Wachsler	Parsons School of Design
Ananya Walhekar	UMass Amherst
Courtney Walsh	University of South Carolina
Bryan Wang	Brandeis University
Jane Wang	Brandeis University
Jonathan Wang	University of New Hampshire
Lindsay Wang	Tufts University
Anna Warren	Connecticut College
James Waters	George Mason University
Noam Watt	University of Connecticut
Reed Weiler	American University
Daniel Weiss	Skidmore College
Devin Wells	UMass Amherst
Logan Wells	Work
Kristina Whalen	Regis College
Genevieve Wharton	Lesley University
Olivia White	Queen's University
Kate Williams	Saint Anselm College
Cameron Wilson	Qunnipiac University
Adam Winter	Johns Hopkins University
Izzy Wood	Amherst College
Brandon Wu	University of Michigan
Kara Xie	Harvard University
Kristin Xie	New York University
Luke Xing-Xie	McGill University
James Xu	Bentley University
Jeffrey Xu	New York University
Michael Yang	UMass Amherst
Rebecca Ye	Wellesley College
Jeongwook Yi	Tufts University
Diane Yu	University of Michigan
Kyle Yuan	New York University
Heather Yun	School of Visual Arts
Azalea Yunus	Colby College
Grace Zales	University of Pittsburgh
Jonah Zaslow	Johnson and Wales University
Isaac Zaslow	Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Jessica Zedros	Bryant University
Alison Zeng	Dartmouth College
Aaron Zhang	
Adina Zhang	Emory University
Albert Zhang	UC Berkeley
Andi Zhang	UMass Boston
Jeff Zhang	American University
Luke Zhang	University of Miami
Patty Zhang	Johns Hopkins University
Sherry Zhang	UMass Amherst
Yuetian (Tiantian) Zhang	School of Visual Arts
Sarah Zhitnik	University of Florida
Richard Zhou	Yale University
Sophia Zurlo	

Musket's ability, and we apologize for any inaccuracies. This list may not be reproduced without written permission. Congratulations to all the seniors of the Class of 2018 from The Musket!

Editorial

Inequality in senior destinations

As admission rates spiral downward, the cost of getting into college continues to soar. Parents and students scramble for any slight advantage over other students, and these advantages often come at an expense. SAT prep courses and college essay coaches have price tags in the thousands, and, effective or not, they give the rich an unfair advantage.

Even in a school like Lexington High School, students come from a broad spectrum of resources. Examining the country as a whole, the spectrum is stretched further.

While colleges brag about the diversity of their student body, this diversity is only skin deep. The student body may be from various cultural backgrounds, but socioeconomically, students tend to be more similar than different. According to The New York Times, the median family income of a student from Harvard is $168,800 (the US median income is $58,829) and 67% of Harvard's class comes from the top 20 percent.

This "skin deep diversity" is mirrored on many other campuses throughout the country, and points to the fact that low-income families are continually disadvantaged in the admissions process.

The growing gap between the haves and have nots is exacerbated by the plethora of resources available to only some communities. Although Lexington provides its students with a fantastic public education, other communities even within Mass. cannot provide students with an education that can compete with ours.

To address the inequality gap, colleges and universities have turned to factors such as race, geographical location and gender, and weighing these factors when determining admission. By considering these factors, schools try to assess applicants in the context of the resources available to them. Admission officers then weigh these factors when determining acceptance, making college admissions more of a game than a process.

Recent lawsuits investigating unfair bias against certain races are a reaction to the admission process becoming more of a game than an assessment of merit. Plaintiffs assert that the expectations for Asian-Americans are unfairly high versus the expectations for other races. This argument can become a slippery slope into arguing against affirmative action, though "skin deep diversity" makes it clear that programs like affirmative action are desperately needed.

We cannot look to admissions to solve our problems of unfairness in the education system. Inequality in college admissions is a reflection of inequality in our country as a whole, and we cannot expect the admissions process to make up for past gaps. We must address the unfair distribution of resources and opportunities across the country in order to equalize the playing field for all.

Unsigned editorials reflect the opinion of the majority of the editorial board.

collegebored

A Farewell Address

Lasya Rajan
Columnist

Friends and Citizens:

The period for a new appointment to administer the executive position of College Bored columnist being not far distant, it appears to me to be proper that I should apprise you of the resolution I have formed to graduate from Lexington High School, and to decline being considered for the College Bored position in the succeeding year.

I beg you, at the same time, to do me the justice of assuring that this resolution has not been taken without a strict regard to all the considerations appertaining to the relation which binds a dutiful Student to her High School, and that I definitely completed my graduation survey and paid for my transcript requests.

In looking forward to the termination of my brief career at the Musket, my feelings do not permit me to suspend the deep gratitude which I owe to my beloved readership for the steadfast confidence with which it has supported me. If any benefits have resulted to our School as a result of my Column, let it always be remembered to your praise, as there is no effect of literature unread. The constancy of your support was the essential prop of my efforts, in addition to the implacable prompting from my editor to complete my drafts in a timely manner. With deep solemnity, I remark that I am profoundly penetrated with the ideals of Lexington High School, and pray for the eternal preservation of the Student Parent Handbook under the auspices of liberty.

Here perhaps, I ought to stop. But who that is a sincere friend to Lexington High School can look with indifference upon attempts to shake the foundation of its fabric? In contemplating the causes which may disturb our School, it occurs as a matter of serious concern that any ground should have been furnished for characterizing parties by certain discriminations, whether they be of creed, clique, or math class.

A fire not to be quenched, these discriminations require a uniform vigilance to prevent their bursting into flame, lest, instead of warming, they should consume. Do not allow a small but enterprising minority to factionalize and assault the bonds of civic brotherhood; dispense with your Hype Squads of Spirit and Jazz, your segregated Commons, your snow societies, your "Bee Clubs." The primary concern is that of the School, the student body politic.

I have already intimated to you the danger of parties in the School, with particular reference to the founding of them on stereotypical discriminations. Let me now take a more comprehensive view, and warn you in the most solemn manner against the baneful effects of the spirit of party generally. Do not allow your future entanglements to distract from the wholeness of the Senior Class, and consider wearing attire other than college apparel or attending class periodically.

But do not let this vigilance requisite for the protection of the School hinder your passions in this stage, or the next and I wish to offer to my fellow Seniors, the counsels of an old and affectionate friend.

Take up your causes with all the provided vigor, no matter if they be computer programming or ceramics. Seek out that which is your constitution, and hold steadfastly to your virtues and morality.

THANK YOU

to our generous donors for supporting The Musket. We couldn't do it without you!

- Heike Arendt
- Debbie Chan
- Irwan The
- The McCallum family

Note: We apologize if you donated and your name is not on our list. Please send an email to musketnews@gmail.com

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